

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SIG-03 SSO-00 SOE-02  
AF-10 ARA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-12 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NASA-02 NEA-11 NSAE-00 SP-02 PA-02  
DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 ICA-20 NSCE-00 INRE-00  
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TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

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TAGS: PARM, SOPN

SUBJECT: JUNE 27 ROUNDUP: PRESS ITEMS OF ARMS CONTROL  
INTEREST

LONDON FOR AMB/EX, SOFIA FOR AMBASSADOR  
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1. GEORGE C. WILSON OF WASHINGTON POST SAID CIA, IN  
REPORT TO JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE, PREDICTED THAT "CON-  
CLUSION OF SALT TWO AGREEMENT ALONG LINES CURRENTLY BEING  
DISCUSSED WOULD NOT, IN ITSELF, SLOW GROWTH OF SOVIET  
DEFENSE SPENDING SIGNIFICANTLY." WILSON SAID CIA ASSESS-  
MENT NOTED THAT EVEN THOUGH SOVIET ECONOMY IS IN NO GREAT

SHAPE TODAY AND WILL SLOW DOWN FURTHER IN 1980S, "ALL OF EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO US ON SOVIET DEFENSE PROGRAMS UNDER WAY AND PLANNED SUGGESTS THAT LONG-TERM UPWARD TREND" IN MOSCOW'S MILITARY SPENDING "IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE INTO 1980S." FROM 1967 TO 1977, CIA SAID, SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING INCREASED BY ABOUT FOUR TO FIVE PERCENT ANNUALLY, TAKING BETWEEN ELEVEN TO THIRTEEN PERCENT OF GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT AND ABSORBING ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF METAL INDUSTRY'S OUTPUT. LIKE U.S., SOVIET UNION SPENDS MOST OF ITS DEFENSE FUNDS ON NONNUCLEAR FORCES WHICH WOULD NOT BE COVERED UNDER SALT AGREEMENT AND THUS WOULD CONTINUE TO DRIVE UP SOVIET MILITARY SPENDING, BARRING SOME NEGOTIATED LIMIT ON NONNUCLEAR FORCES, WILSON POINTED OUT. CIA SAID "SPENDING FOR INTERCONTINENTAL ATTACK FORCES SUBJECT TO SALT TWO LIMITATIONS CONSTITUTED LITTLE OVER TEN PERCENT OF TOTAL DEFENSE SPENDING AND GREW AT SLOWER PACE THAN TOTAL." IN ASSESSING 1967-77 OUTLAYS AND ANALYZING WHAT IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN NEXT, THESE WERE AMONG CIA FINDINGS: (1) SOVIETS MAY BE DEVELOPING LONG-RANGE BOMBER, WHICH WOULD BE DEPLOYED BY EARLY 1980S. (2) SALT AGREEMENT ALONG LINES PROPOSED BY CARTER ADMINISTRATION "WOULD PROBABLY REDUCE RATE OF GROWTH OF TOTAL SOVIET DEFENSE SPENDING BY ONLY ABOUT 0.2 PERCENTAGE POINTS PER YEAR. RESULTING SAVINGS WOULD AMOUNT TO LESS THAN 1.5 PERCENT OF TOTAL DEFENSE SPENDING PROJECTED THROUGH EARLY 1980S IN ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT." WILSON SAID WHILE UNCLASSIFIED

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CIA'S ASSESSMENT "MAY GIVE AMMUNITION TO CRITICS OF SALT, PRESIDENT CARTER HAS BASED HIS PURSUIT OF SALT AGREEMENT NOT ON SAVING MONEY BUT ON MAKING WORLD LESS DANGEROUS BY REDUCING NUCLEAR ARSENALS COMMANDED BY WASHINGTON AND MOSCOW. THEREFORE, HIS PURSUIT IS EXPECTED TO CONTINUE."

2. WASHINGTON STAR QUOTED SENATOR PATRICK LEAHY AS SAYING IF U.S. AND SOVIET UNION DON'T AGREE ON A SALT AGREEMENT-- "AND THAT MEANS AN AGREEMENT THAT WILL PROTECT SECURITY INTEREST OF U.S. AS WELL AS SLOWING DOWN ARMS RACE -- THEN WE ARE GOING TO RETURN TO COLD WAR." LEAHY DESCRIBED POTENTIAL FOR RETURN TO COLD WAR AS "VERY, VERY GREAT" IF SALT AGREEMENT HASN'T BEEN REACHED BY END OF YEAR.

3. ASSOCIATED PRESS SAID AMBASSADOR PAUL WARNKE TOLD NEWS CONFERENCE AT UNITED NATIONS HE THOUGHT SOVIET-U.S. SUMMIT MEETING TO WRAP UP SALT TWO AGREEMENT WAS "QUITE POSSIBLE" BEFORE END OF THIS YEAR. HE SAID "I THINK WITH GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATIONS ON BOTH SIDES, WE CERTAINLY CAN REACH SALT AGREEMENT BEFORE END OF YEAR." AP SAID WARNKE TOLD SSOD THAT SALT TWO WOULD PUT "CAP ON NUCLEAR ARMS RACE," AND FOR FIRST TIME INCLUDE "QUALITATIVE LIMITS" ON

NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

4. CHICAGO TRIBUNE SAID EDITORIALY THAT "IT IS HIGH TIME, IN FACT, FOR MESSRS. CARTER AND WARNKE TO REASSESS THEIR APPROACH TO ARMS TALKS. IT IS TIME THEY ASK WHY SOVIET UNION GETS SO MUCH OF WHAT IT WANTS FROM THOSE TALKS AND WE GET SO LITTLE. HOW MANY MORE UNILATERAL CONCESSIONS MUST BE MADE BEFORE THESE TWO MEN ARE CONVINCED THAT SOVIET UNION RESPONDS TO RESTRAINT WAY THAT A RATTLESNAKE RESPONDS TO PETTING? AND HOW MUCH MORE OF THIS WOOLLY HEADED BUMBLING CAN WE AFFORD WITHOUT IRREPARABLY ENDANGERING SECURITY OF U.S.?"

5. SYNDICATED COLUMNIST PATRICK BUCHANAN, WRITING IN UNCLASSIFIED

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NEW YORK NEWS, SAID "SALT AGREEMENT BEING NEGOTIATED WILL FINALLY, AND PERHAPS FATALY, COMPROMISE SECURITY OF U.S." BUCHANAN CHARGED THAT WARNKE IS TRADING AWAY CRUISE MISSILES AT SALT. "ALREADY, CONCESSIONS HAVE BEEN MADE TO RUSSIANS IN TERMS OF NUMBERS, RANGE, PLACEMENT AND TRANSFERS OF THESE WEAPONS TO OUR NATO ALLIES. PRODUCED BY THOUSANDS, CRUISE MISSILES COULD SWAMP SOVIET DEFENSES AND PROVIDE U.S. WITH ADDED MEASURE OF DETERRENCE DESPERATELY NEEDED BEFORE NEW STRATEGIC SYSTEMS -- SUCH AS B-1 BOMBER AND TRIDENT SUBMARINE -- COME ONSTREAM."

6. BALTIMORE SUN REPORTED THAT MBFR TALKS SEEMED HEADED BACK TO STALEMATE AS PRAVDA REPORTED THAT SOVIET UNION INSISTS ON APPLYING ITS OWN COUNTING FORMULA TO PROPOSED TROOP CUTS, "THEREBY EVISCERATING COMPROMISE IT HAD APPEARED TO MAKE EARLIER THIS MONTH." PRAVDA SAID SOVIET UNION'S OWN DATA ON TROOP STRENGTH -- SHOWING BOTH SIDES ALREADY ABOUT EQUAL -- MUST BE ACCEPTED. BOTH SIDES, SUN POINTED OUT, COUNT NATO GROUND FORCES IN CENTRAL EUROPE AT BETWEEN 782,000 AND 791,000. WARSAW PACT NEGOTIATORS, HOWEVER, SAY THAT THEIR ALLIANCE DEPLOYS 805,000 TROOPS, WHILE NATO INSISTS THE NUMBER IS 935,000. "THESE FIGURES HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN WEST, BUT NEVER FOR SOVIET AUDIENCE. PRAVDA'S DOING SO, THEREFORE, REPRESENTED HARDENING OF SOVIET INSISTENCE ON ITS OWN COUNTING FORMULA." PRAVDA CALLED NATO DATA AN "ARBITRARY, DISTORTED EVALUATION OF MILITARY BALANCE IN CENTRAL EUROPE." PRAVDA SAID IT WAS AIMED AT TRYING TO SECURE UNILATERAL MILITARY ADVANTAGE FOR NATO BY REQUIRING LARGER REDUCTIONS ON WARSAW PACT SIDE. VANCE

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